



# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



*Vision Statement: As vigilant guardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.*

## **DATE:**

(Weeks of March 1, 2017 – March 15, 2017)

*This report represents some events the OLE handled over the last couple of weeks; however, it does not include all actions taken by the Office of Law Enforcement.*

## **REGION 1 – Captain Laura Petreikis**

### **District 1 – Sgt. T. Petreikis**

**(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)**

#### **CARROLL COUNTY**

A Carroll County man pleaded guilty to possession of firearm and ammunition with no valid F.O.I.D. card. The subject paid \$260 in fines and fees.

#### **HENRY COUNTY**

CPO Posateri was running radar at Johnson Sauk Trail State Recreation Area. Vehicles were stopped for speeding, and citations or written warnings were issued.

As CPO Posateri was working coyote hunters, the officer observed a dark plume of smoke in the air approximately one-half mile away. The CPO responded and observed a pile of rubbish smoldering. The officer spoke with the farm manager who was doing some spring cleaning in an office and had decided to burn some old paper along with some office furniture. The CPO informed the farm manager of the pollution violations, and enforcement action was taken.

#### **JO DAVIESS COUNTY**

CPO Hoogerwerf wrapped up a deer harvest investigation with the help of a Cook County CPO. A Chicago man was issued multiple written warnings for a deer he harvested during the firearm deer season.

CPO Hoogerwerf taught the law section of a hunter safety class held at the Apple Canyon Lake clubhouse.

## LEE COUNTY

While on boat patrol on the Rock River, CPO Teas observed a boat with several people fishing. CPO Teas approached the boat for a compliance check and discovered two of the fishermen did not have a fishing license and one of them had an active warrant for his arrest. The subjects were issued a citation for fishing without a license, and the subject with the warrant was taken into custody and transported to the Lee County jail.

CPO Teas and CPOT Thornley completed an administrative investigation of a subject who had killed a deer but did not have a valid permit at the time of harvest. The subject was issued a citation and three warnings for the offense.

CPO Beltran and an intern were dispatched to a dumping call and found mail along with household garbage. An investigation resulted in a citation to a 25 year old Dixon man.

## MERCER COUNTY

On 3-5-17, CPO Francisko investigated a trapping during closed season complaint near Alexis IL. It was discovered the Mercer County man was using 220 conibear body gripping traps during closed season. The man admitted killing two skunks, two raccoons, two possums and the neighbor's pet cat. The man was discarding the carcasses in the ditch near the roadway. The man stated he was trying to protect pigeons he raised. Someone didn't like the fact the man was trapping and threw the two dead skunks in his car. Mercer County Sheriff's Department handled that complaint. CPO Francisko advised the man that had he followed proper procedures these problems would not have happened. The man should have called IDNR Conservation Police and requested a Nuisance Removal Permit. A CPO would have investigated the need for it and then permitted him to trap with non-lethal traps to avoid killing pets and non-target animals. The man was issued a citation for trapping during closed season and a Nuisance Removal Permit allowing the use of non-lethal traps for a short period.

## OGLE COUNTY

CPO Teas investigated a dead bald eagle found on the side of the road in Ogle County. The eagle was turned over to USFWS.

## ROCK ISLAND

CPO Posateri and CPOT Thornley worked the Outdoor Show at the QCCA Expo Center and answered numerous questions about IDNR regulations including boat registration, hunting, fishing, and parks.

CPO Posateri and CPOT Thornley interviewed a hunter about his 2016 deer harvest. After numerous lies were told by the hunter, it was determined he did not harvest the deer at all. His dad killed the buck but only had an antlerless deer permit. To cover up the issue, the dad asked the adult son to purchase an either sex deer permit, and they tagged the deer with the permit from the son. The remaining deer meat was seized, and multiple citations were issued.

During the unseasonably warm temps, CPO Posateri and CPOT Thornley launched a boat and worked Walleye fishermen on the Mississippi River. Multiple warnings were issued for boat equipment violations, and a few citations were issued for fishing without a license.

CPO Posateri and CPOT Thornley were on patrol and observed 3 ATVs operating on a highway. Once the operators on the ATVs saw the CPOs, they turned around and took off in the opposite direction. The CPOs went to a nearby city park, and the ATVs were located with one stuck in the mud at the creek. The operators were issued citations, and returned the ATVs home to a residence adjacent to the park.

CPO Posateri responded to a call for an injured hawk. When the CPO arrived, the bird was identified as a Great Horned Owl which had been deceased for quite a while. The owl was collected and disposed of properly.

## STEPHENSON

CPO Beltran and an intern were dispatched to rural Stephenson County to respond to a dead Bald Eagle. It was discovered that there were burn marks on the animal and several power lines overhead. The bird was relayed to US Fish and Wildlife Service and will be sent to the USFWS Bald Eagle repository.

CPO Beltran and an intern (Dixon, IL) investigated a 27 year old Madison, Wisconsin man for a deer permit violation in Stephenson County. During the investigation, it was discovered a buck was taken unlawfully. Several citations were issued

## WHITESIDE

CPO Teas cited a subject for having no fishing license at Prophetstown State Park.

A Clinton man pled guilty to operation under the influence B.A.C. greater than .08. The operation under the influence charge was dropped. The Clinton man paid over \$1,500 in fines and fees and received 12 months probation.

CPO Palumbo and CPOT Sanford concluded an investigation which resulted in the issuance of multiple citations and written warnings to two Whiteside County men for the unlawful sale of aquatic life.

CPO Palumbo and CPOT Sanford gave presentations to the Whiteside County Area Career Center's criminal justice classes.

CPOT Sanford and CPO Palumbo investigated a complaint of the unlawful sale of Skipjack herring by a commercial fisherman and bait shop in Whiteside County. Both the commercial fisherman and bait shop were found to have sold skipjack herring without the necessary license to do so (Aquatic Life Dealer's License). In total, two citations and two written warnings were issued as a result of the investigation.

**District 6 - Sgt. Phil Wire**  
**(Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)**

BOONE COUNTY

CPO Alt testified in Boone County Court for a hunting without permission charge based on a landowner complaint during the firearm deer season. The charge was dismissed due the landowner (complainant) failing to show up to court.

BUREAU COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

DEKALB COUNTY

On March 5, CPO Murry was driving towards Shabbona Lake State Park, when a vehicle going the opposite direction, traveled across the center line and almost struck his patrol vehicle. A traffic stop was made on that vehicle. After a brief investigation, the driver was arrested for DUI with a BAC of .204. A passenger in the vehicle was cited for illegal transportation of alcohol.

LASALLE COUNTY

CPO Murry was conducting an hour of directed speed enforcement detail at Starved Rock State Park on February 26, 2017. While conducting the speed enforcement, CPO Murry stopped three cars for speeding. Of the three stops, CPO Murry arrested two of the drivers for driving while license suspended.

On March 4, CPO Murry was conducting a hour speed enforcement detail at Starved Rock. CPO Murry wrote 4 speeding tickets during that detail.

Over 2 days, CPOs Filipiak, Finn, Jansen, Kaufman, and Wagner seized 17 deer stands from the Marseilles Fish and Wildlife Area. All stands are to be removed from the site by the last day of deer season.

CPO Finn and CPO Wagner walked the trails of Starved Rock during a weekday and issued 13 citations. Citations were for entry to a restricted area, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of cannabis.

CPO Finn and CPO Wagner were called to the Starved Rock lodge where a patron was asked to leave due to lewd behavior. The visitor had been told in the past he was not welcome on the property and had to be escorted off the property by two Conservation Police Officers.

CPO Filipiak was checking Walleye fisherman on the Illinois River. Two citations were issued for possession of Walleye less than 14 inches.

PUTNAM COUNTY

CPO Finn was patrolling Putnam County when he observed a car traveling well above the posted speed limit. After pulling the car over, CPO Finn found the driver was suspended, had no valid insurance and was speeding. The driver was arrested and taken to Putnam County for processing. After fingerprinting and issuing two citations and a warning, the driver was released with a mandatory court date in Putnam County.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

While conducting after hours patrol at Rock Cut State Park, CPO Fraser observed a vehicle occupied by 4 people in violation of the posted closed hours and the posted speed limit. CPO Fraser stopped the vehicle and discovered the driver did not have valid insurance for the vehicle and one of the occupants was wanted on a warrant. Citations and warnings were issued, and the wanted individual was transported to the Winnebago County Jail.

CPO Fraser attended a meeting in District 1 and gave a presentation on Sovereign Citizens and Domestic Terrorists.

Officer Schoonhoven initiated a traffic stop in Rock Cut State Park that resulted in the arrest of a subject on drug charges. He also patrolled the park after closed hours that resulted in criminal charges for obstructing identification and other drug charges.

CPO Alt and CPOT Poffenberger responded to a nuisance trapping complaint in South Beloit where a landowner was unlawfully trapping, without the required state nuisance permit, wildlife he claimed was causing property damage. No evidence of property damage was observed and a charge for unlawful trapping of furbearing mammals during the closed season is pending.

CPO Alt and CPOT Poffenberger inspected four shore fishermen on Pierce Lake in Rock Cut State Park. Three of the four youths were found to either be fishing without a fishing license or fishing without a fishing license in possession. One of the teens attempted to lie about his age in order to avoid being issued a citation for the offense. This youth was educated to the fact that lying to a peace officer is a criminal offense. Upon running all subjects via state police dispatch, one of the juveniles returned wanted on a no-bond juvenile arrest warrant. The juvenile was taken into custody and then lodged in the Winnebago County Juvenile Detention Facility.

**District 7, Sgt. Avery**

**(Counties: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, Marshall, McDonough, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, Warren & Woodford)**

FULTON COUNTY

CPO Thompson worked a complaint of waterfowl poaching in rural Fulton County. CPO Thompson met with a complainant at the scene and photographed several dead Specklebelly geese in a corn field. After collecting evidence of the crime, CPO Thompson was able to identify 3 male suspects from Canton IL. After conducting interviews, CPO Thompson received signed confessions to unlawful take of Specklebelly geese during the closed season, unlawful discharge of firearm from the roadway, unlawful hunting by use or aid of

a motor vehicle, and unlawful hunting without permission of the landowner. Six citations and twelve written warnings were issued as a result.

CPO Thompson interviewed a landowner in reference to a trespassing complaint. Upon taking the complaint, CPO Thompson received evidence from the landowner that several vehicles had been entering and exiting his property without permission. CPO Thompson identified 5 suspects involved in the complaint. During one of the interviews, CPO Thompson received an admission to trespassing, unlawful hunting without permission of the landowner and unlawful transportation of an uncased and loaded firearm in a vehicle. A citation and several written warnings were issued.

CPO Thompson investigated two cases in reference to deer permit violations. At the conclusion of 2 interviews, CPO Thompson issued written warnings for failure to tag deer immediately upon kill and unlawful take of a Whitetail deer.

CPO Thompson received a case disposition in Fulton County Court in a deer poaching case. The defendant pled guilty to two charges and was ordered to pay a total of \$860 in fines including a \$500 donation to the IDNR Conservation Police Fund. A 9 point buck was forfeited to the IDNR.

CPO Sanford and CPO Lazzell performed an administrative investigation stemming from wildlife violations which occurred in Fulton County during the 2016 deer season. As a result of the investigation, the individual in question was issued two written warnings for the violations.

HENDERSON COUNTY

CPO Reid filed multiple charges as a result of a deer poaching case in Henderson County. Two local subjects were charged with unlawful taking of Whitetail deer during the closed season and hunting with the aid of a spotlight

KNOX COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

MARSHALL

No activity reported for this county

McDONOUGH

No activity reported for this county

PEORIA COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

STARK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

TAZEWELL COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

WARREN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

WOODFORD COUNTY

CPO Gerard received a court disposition stemming from the firearm deer season. A Woodford County resident was issued a \$500 fine for unlawfully hunting deer over bait.

**REGION 2 – Captain Brett Scroggins**

**District 2 – Sgt. Schreiber  
(Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)**

KANE COUNTY

CPO Siedsma spoke with the Aurora Central Catholic High School Fishing Club regarding the importance of conservation, following the rules and regulations, and the duties of a Conservation Police Officer.

LAKE COUNTY

CPO VanWiltburg received a complaint regarding an abandoned boat on Gages Lake. CPO VanWiltburg located the owner, who agreed to make arrangements to move the boat to another location. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

While fueling his patrol squad at a gas station in Fox Lake, CPO Semenik observed a vehicle pass his location and smelled a strong odor of burnt cannabis. CPO Semenik approached the vehicle in the parking lot to interview the driver and recovered a glass smoking pipe and cannabis. The driver was issued civil law citations for possession of cannabis less than 10 grams and possession of drug paraphernalia.

CPO Kelley made a public appearance at Lotus Elementary School in Fox Lake for career week. Approximately 80 students attended, and the presentation was well-received by all.

McHENRY COUNTY

CPO VanWiltburg cited a female subject for unlawful possession/retention of a hen Mallard. She said her daughter brought it home from the Chain O' Lakes a couple of years ago. The Mallard was placed in the care of a local rehabber along with the domestic duck she wanted to get rid of.

While fueling his patrol squad at a gas station in Johnsburg, CPO Semenik ran a suspicious vehicle parked near the entrance. The vehicle's plates returned suspended for mandatory insurance violation, and the registered owners driver's license was also suspended. When the vehicle left the gas station, CPO Semenik initiated a traffic stop. The driver was arrested for driving while license suspended, operation of motor vehicle with suspended registration (both class A misdemeanors) and operation of uninsured motor vehicle.

CPO Semenik was leaving the Chain O' Lakes State Park at around 3:00 PM when he observed a man walking to an SUV parked by the gatehouse that was closed. CPO Semenik ran the vehicle's Wisconsin registration. The registered owner's driver's license was revoked since 2006 for DUI. As the vehicle left the park and headed north toward Wisconsin, CPO Semenik confirmed the information and initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle. During the traffic stop, CPO Semenik made several observations that the driver was under the influence of alcohol, and there was an open bottle of Jack Daniels and a large glass of Jack and Coke in the center console cup holder. The driver was arrested for aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol, aggravated DUI BAC above .08, driving while license revoked, and illegal transportation of liquor. The driver's BAC was .10%, and he was jailed at McHenry County jail.

CPOT Knop responded to a complaint of a truck stuck off of a bike path at Moraine Hills State Park. The subjects went around a gate blocking the bike trail, and their rented U-Haul truck became stuck in a swampy area as they attempted to navigate back onto the main road. The driver was intoxicated, wanted on a warrant for a previous DUI, and claimed, "If he would have had a Ford he could have made it." He was also cited for driving off the roadway and resisting arrest. His female passenger was also arrested for outstanding warrants. Both subjects were arrested and taken to McHenry County jail.

CPOT Knop and CPO Davis took advantage of the unseasonable warm weather and checked fishermen on the Fox River. CPOT Knop observed two people fishing below the Algonquin dam. Upon approaching, one of the fishermen set his pole down, began to walk towards the CPOs and claimed he was not fishing. He did not have a fishing license and was issued a citation.

**District 3 – Sgt. Wollgast**  
**(Counties: Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall & Will)**

GRUNDY COUNTY

CPOT Snodgrass finished a deer investigation in Grundy County resulting in 2 citations for unlawful take of a Whitetail deer and unlawful use of another person's permits. Three written warnings were issued to subjects for violations of hunting without a habitat stamp on multiple occasions. The 10 point deer was seized.

While checking fisherman at Braidwood Lake, CPO Mieure and CPOT Snodgrass issued 2 citations and 2 written warnings to two individuals who were in possession of 15 striped bass, of which 11 were over 17 inches in length.

CPO Bergland handled a fishing without permission complaint. Two citations were issued.

CPO Bergland began investigating a timber harvest in northern Grundy County.

#### KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPO Mieure patrolled Kankakee County checking fisherman. One citation was issued for fishing without a license.

CPO Anderson checked fishermen at Mazonia FWA . One written warning was issued for no fishing license in possession.

#### KENDALL COUNTY

CPO Bergland assisted CPO Jansen with a boat registration investigation.

CPO Bergland assisted Kendall County with 2 personal injury crashes.

#### WILL COUNTY

CPO Mieure worked Braidwood Lake checking fisherman and conducting boat safety inspections. Three written warnings were issued to subjects for boating violations.

CPO Bergland conducted a hunter safety class.

CPO Mieure and CPOT Snodgrass finished phase 4 FTO this week. They investigated a timber cut/transport on a Will County Forest Preserve that is pending further investigation.

### **District 4 – Sgt. Whitchurch (Counties: Cook & DuPage, Lake)**

#### COOK COUNTY

CPO Macias was at Jackson Harbor checking fisherman when he noticed a kayak with two people on it. A boat stop was initiated, and it was determined they were missing one lifejacket and had no water usage stamp. It is unusual to see any boating activity this early in the year. A citation and written warnings were issued.

CPO Macias attended a wildlife capture class. Topics included how to safely capture various wild animals while keeping the handler safe. Also included were phone numbers for Chicago area personnel that would take possession of these various animals after hours.

Sgt. Witchchurch was near the Illinois Conservation Police District 4 Office at the Chicago River when he observed a boat being operated without any visible registration. The USCG assisted with an inspection to assure all proper boating safety equipment was onboard the boat while it was underway. A citation was issued to the operator of the boat for unlawful operation of an unnumbered watercraft.

CPO Macias was patrolling at Tampier Lake when he came across two teens that were fishing and had an open fire. When asked to see their licenses they admitted not knowing they needed one. The male subject was issued a citation. The female was given a written warning.

CPO Macias was made aware of a Chicago resident hunter who may have not checked in a deer during his fall 2016 firearms hunt. CPO Macias made contact after many failed attempts and spoke to the hunter who admitted failure to report the deer he harvested by 2200 hours the same day. A citation was issued.

CPO Macias received a Facebook tip that a Tinley Park resident was selling "wolf pups". CPO Macias went to the address and found an empty/abandoned house with a pit bull locked inside. After talking with a few neighbors, it was determined the house was rented out. The last residents left and no one really knew them personally. Animal control was called to schedule a capture of the abandoned dog.

CPO Macias received a report of a group of people exceeding the limit of Crappie at Tampier Lake . Upon arrival, several other fishermen told CPO Macias they had called, and they also had pictures of the offenders' vehicles. CPO Macias tracked them down to Chinatown. CPO Macias made contact with two of the subjects. There was a very difficult language barrier between the subject and the CPO so interpreters were called in. After several translations, permission was obtained by CPO Macias to check the take for the day. It was determined each subject had total of 12 crappie. CPO Macias explained, via the translator, the daily take limits of the specific lake and terminated contact with the subject.

William Powers State Fish and Wildlife Area was beat up with the weather so fishermen were scarce. But the warm weather is bringing out the regular patrons. CPO Mooi wrote a ticket to a woman for letting her dog chase Canada geese near the playground.

#### DuPAGE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

#### LAKE COUNTY

CPO Farber conducted sport fish enforcement along the Des Plaines River. No violations were discovered.

CPO Farber assisted SGT Schreiber with a case made by CPO Hurt. CPO Farber consulted with the Lake Co State's Attorney and is waiting on a recommendation. New charges may be filed in the case.

CPO Farber received a complaint about subjects shooting deer out of season from an abandoned house in Zion. Coyote hunters are known to be legally hunting in the area. The incident is still under investigation.

With warm weather approaching, CPO Farber conducted speed enforcement at Illinois Beach State Park. CPO Farber issued several speed related.

CPO Farber issued a written warning to a subject for remaining in a state park while closed.

CPO Farber conducted speed enforcement at Illinois Beach State Park. Two civil cannabis citations, one speed citation and two speed written warnings were issued.

CPO Farber assisted Winthrop Harbor and Zion Police Departments with a search for a wanted subject in a wooded area. The subject was located and taken into custody at the McDonalds in Zion IL.

CPO Farber received a complaint from a subject in Yorkville, IL. The subject stated that he purchased a watercraft on 09/12/2014 from a business in Lake County, IL. The watercraft and trailer were paid in full the day of purchase (bill of sale, tax and check information attached to field report). After purchase, the business representatives told him that he would receive the watercraft title, watercraft trailer title, and registration in the mail. The subject has contacted the business over twenty times to date, by phone and in person. The business has used the excuse several times that the State Of Illinois is backed up with watercraft registration. A check with the Watercraft Division of the IDNR revealed no paperwork had been received from the business. The investigation is pending.

## **REGION 3 – Captain Jim Mayes**

### **District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds**

**(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)**

#### **CLARK COUNTY**

CPO Wellum completed an administrative investigation on a Clark County man for a deer hunting violation during the firearm season. No enforcement action was taken.

CPO Wellum completed an administrative investigation on a Clark County man for use of an archery permit during firearm season. A written warning was issued.

CPO Wellum completed two boat registration investigations in Clark County.

CPO Wellum issued citations to a Clark County man for illegal transportation of alcohol by a driver and transportation of an uncased bow.

CPO Wellum issued salvage deer tags to a Clark County man.

CPO Wellum issued two salvage deer tags to a Clark County man.

CPO Wellum investigated a report of a 4-wheeler on the walking trails at Lincoln Trail State Park.

COLES COUNTY

CPO Barnes cited a Toledo man for possession of drug paraphernalia in Coles County on the Embarras River.

CPO Wellum and CPO Greuel investigated a report of an illegal deer stand in Coles County.

CPO Barnes cited a Mattoon man for fishing without a license at Lake Paradise.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

DOUGLAS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

EDGAR COUNTY

CPO Wellum issued two salvage deer tags to an Edgar County man.

MOULTRIE COUNTY

CPO Moody cited a Mattoon man for operating an ATV on department lands in the Shelbyville Wildlife Management Area.

CPO Moody cited a Mattoon man for fishing with no valid license, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of less than 10 grams cannabis at the Kaskaskia River in the Shelbyville Wildlife Management Area.

CPO Moody cited a Mattoon man for driving while license revoked in the Shelbyville Wildlife Management Area. The man drove up to Moody while he was checking another man. CPO Moody recognized him due to arresting him multiple times in the past and had knowledge that his driver's license was revoked.

CPO Greuel heard a call of a fisherman that fell out of his boat while troll fishing in Lake Shelbyville near Findlay Railroad. The 41 year old man, who was fishing alone without a wearing a PFD, quickly became exhausted getting back to his boat in 45 degree water. The man made a 911 call with his cell phone. CPO Greuel heard the radio traffic on the Moultrie County Sheriff's Office radio channel and responded with a jon boat. CPO Greuel was first on scene with the man clinging to the side of his boat. By this time, he was hypothermic and was barely able to talk. CPO Greuel pulled him from the water and began immediate treatment for hypothermia. The Moultrie dive team arrived and assisted. The man was transported to a waiting ambulance and then to St. Mary's Hospital in Decatur for treatment.

SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Moody cited a Mattoon man on Lake Shelbyville for operation of a personal watercraft without wearing a PFD.

CPO Greuel cited a Steger fisherman for drug and paraphernalia possession on the Kaskaskia River in Shelby County. The subject was also issued a written warning for not having his fishing license in possession.

While performing boat safety checks at Lake Pana, CPO Barnes cited a Pana man for not having any life jackets on board. The subject received written warnings for three other boat violations.

**District 19 – Sgt. John Williamson**

**(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)**

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

DEWITT COUNTY

CPO Reeves requested that K9 Hank and his handler, CPO Viverito, screen the vehicles at the Clinton Lake Spillway parking lot. Hank screened 5 vehicles total and indicated on a silver passenger car. CPO Reeves searched the vehicle and uncovered illegal narcotics.

CPO Viverito and K9 Hank were patrolling Dewitt County. They pulled into Clinton Recreational Area's main boat ramp and performed a fishing inspection on one of the vessels. The boat had 3 limits of Crappie and two of the Crappie were short fish. A citation was issued.

CPOs Wright and Reeves were working Crappie fishermen at Clinton lake when they checked two fishermen on the DeWitt Bridge. During the check, it was found that both of the fisherman were in possession of an over limit of Crappies. Both Clinton men were issued citations.

FORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

IROQUOIS

No activity reported for this county

LIVINGSTON

No activity reported for this county

MACON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

McLEAN COUNTY

On March 11, CPO Graden and CPOT Ausmus conducted a deer permit investigation. The investigation revealed a Bloomington man shot two deer during the second firearm deer season but only had one deer permit. The subject called a Colfax man and said he needed a tag for the second deer. The Colfax man purchased a tag and illegally reported it as his harvest. Both subjects were issued one citation each and several written warnings. The laws regarding falsification, tagging, and misuse of deer permits were explained to them.

PIATT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

VERMILION COUNTY

CPO Cottrell is investigating the harvest of a possible wolf or wolf hybrid in rural Vermilion County. A father and son were hunting their property for coyotes when the wolf came to the call. After shooting the animal, they took it to a local taxidermist and contacted CPO Cottrell. CPO Viverito took the carcass into custody until DNA tests can be completed. USFWS Officer Matt Karras is assisting with the investigation.

CPO Cottrell cited a Georgetown resident for unlawful dumping along a water way in rural Vermilion County and had the subject remove the big screen console TV he deposited there.

**REGION 4 – Captain Jamie Maul**

**District 9 – Sgt. Mark Wagner**

**(Counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Macoupin, Pike & Schuyler)**

ADAMS COUNTY

While checking snow goose hunters, CPO Blazinic located a non-resident hunter who attempted to hide his shotgun when approached. The hunter was found to be unlawfully hunting snow geese without a non-resident hunting license and State waterfowl stamp. Two other hunters in the same group were found to be unlawfully hunting Snipe out of season and shooting protected Killdeer birds. The hunters were cited for the violations, and 3 shotguns were seized.

BROWN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

CALHOUN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

GREENE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

HANCOCK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

JERSEY COUNTY

CPO Weishaupt gave a basic firearm safety and hunting laws presentation to 27 children and their supervising adults at the Pere Marquette State Park Youth Wing Shooting Clinic.

CPO Michael Goetten received a complaint of several snow geese carcasses being dumped in a ditch in Jersey County. The issue has been ongoing for several years at this location. A suspect was identified and interviewed. The suspect admitted to throwing the carcasses in the ditch. He was cited for the offense.

CPO Michael Goetten conducted an investigation into a Missouri resident who harvested a buck unlawfully without a permit in Illinois. The subject was interviewed and eventually admitted he harvested the buck with a bow and reported it as a roadkill deer. He was issued two citations, and the buck was seized from a taxidermist.

CPO Michael Goetten initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle at Pere Marquette State Park for a vehicle violation. While investigating the stop, a passenger of the vehicle was found to be wanted on a Pontoon Beach arrest warrant for contempt of court. He was arrested and transported to the Jersey County jail to await posting of 10 percent of a \$5,000.00 bond.

MACOUPIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

PIKE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

SCHUYLER COUNTY

CPO Wheatley gave a presentation on hunting laws to a safety education class in Rushville.

**District 10 – Sgt. Chris Stone**

**(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)**

CASS COUNTY

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Cochran attended a hunter safety class at the Masonic lodge in Assumption where he taught several young new hunters about hunter safety and Illinois hunting regulations.

LOGAN COUNTY

MASON COUNTY

CPO Bettis educated 23 hunters about hunting regulations in Illinois at a hunter safety course at Lock and Knot Archery in Mason City.

MENARD COUNTY

MORGAN COUNTY

CPOs Cochran and Wichern received information regarding the placement of shelled corn east of Upper Smith Lake where deer are present. Trail cameras were placed in the area, and it was determined an individual from a nearby cabin was dumping buckets of shelled corn on Norfolk Southern Railroad property at various times of the day and night, and possibly hunting over the bait. After a short interview, it was determined a Meredosia man was placing shelled corn out for deer and shooting mourning doves over the bait during closed season. It was also determined the man did not possess a valid Illinois hunting license, habitat stamp, HIP number or FOID card. The man was taken into custody and transported to the Morgan county jail where the appropriate charges were filed.

While checking coyote hunters on the Morgan-Scott county line, CPO Wichern located two Brown County hunters with a loaded\ uncased shotgun in their truck on the public right of way. The driver was charged with the loaded\ uncased gun, and both hunters were warned about hunting from a public right of way and hunting from a conveyance.

CPO Bettis attended a wild game feed giving a presentation on the duties of a Conservation Police Officer to 30 subjects at the Morgan County Methodist Church.

SANGAMON COUNTY

CPO Bettis educated 40 hunters about regulations in Illinois at a hunter safety course at the Springfield City Police range.

CPO Cochran attended Scheels Fish Fest at Scheels Sporting Goods Store in Springfield where he fielded questions regarding new fishing and hunting regulations from the public.

CPO Cochran located a timber truck south of Sherman. An inspection of the haul revealed a failure to provide complete proof of ownership for the 43 walnut logs. The driver was issued 1 citation for failure to provide the officer with complete proof of ownership.

SCOTT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

**District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker**

**(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)**

BOND COUNTY

CPO Tapley received a complaint about a subject shooting Robins with a high-powered rifle. The subject admitted to shooting two Robins and was issued a citation.

CLINTON COUNTY

CPO Tapley made an appearance at a hunter safety course in Bartelso. 18 students were in attendance.

CPOT Ausmus completed the 2nd phase of field training with CPO Tapley.

CPO Tapley issued citations to two subjects for snagging for fish below the Carlyle Lake Dam.

CPO Tapley took a report from a fisherman regarding a fishing pole and tackle box stolen from the bed of the fisherman's truck. The next day, CPO Tapley returned to the area around the same time of day as the theft and found a subject matching the description of the suspect. After a brief interview, the subject was arrested. The fishing pole and tackle box have not yet been recovered.

CPO Tapley attended the Kaskaskia College Ccareer fair where he spoke with approximately 125 students about the duties and career opportunities with the Illinois Conservation Police.

MADISON COUNTY

CPO Liebl instructed approximately 35 students about conservation law at a hunting safety class in Worden.

## MONROE COUNTY

CPO Schachner investigated a complaint of ongoing criminal trespass. Previously, during firearm deer season, CPO Schachner received a complaint from several different hunters/landowners regarding a homeowner trespassing and allowing his dogs to chase deer/turkeys. CPO Schachner addressed the issue with the landowner and issued a written warning.

Apparently “no trespassing” signs and written warnings were not sufficient as the landowner captured multiple pictures of the dog owners and their dogs continuing to roam on his property. CPO Schachner revisited the violators and issued citations for the criminal trespass.

CPO Schachner attended a hunter safety course in Waterloo to discuss hunter safety and various laws and regulations. Approximately 30 students were present.

## MONTGOMERY

CPO Matt Lentz issued a citation to an Alton, IL male for illegal possession of a Largemouth Bass less than 15 inches at Coffeen Lake.

CPO Matt Lentz issued a citation to an Alton, IL male for illegal possession of a Crappie less than 10 inches at Coffeen Lake.

## RANDOLPH COUNTY

CPO Charles received information from a landowner of possible illegal timber harvesting in Randolph County. CPO Charles and CPO Sievers are investigating the complaint to determine if any violations have occurred.

## ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Rolfingsmeier received a complaint about coyote carcasses being dumped in the Prairie Du long Creek. CPO Rolfingsmeier met with the complainant at the creek and counted 29 dead coyote carcasses in the creek. From information received from the complainant, CPO Rolfingsmeier was able to track down the violator and arrest him for illegal dumping and pollution of a waterway. CPO Rolfingsmeier also had the violator clean up the carcasses and dispose of them properly.

CPO Rolfingsmeier was patrolling Frank Holten State Park and conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle speeding through the park. The driver was driving while suspended and was wanted on a warrant out of Massac County. The driver was arrested for the warrant and cited for driving while license was suspended and for speeding.

CPO Liebl was patrolling Baldwin Lake when he checked a Missouri resident who was fishing without a license. A check of the man showed he had an active warrant through the DNR for fishing without a valid fishing license. The man posted bond on the \$1,000 warrant and was issued a citation for the current violation.

CPO Liebl instructed approximately 40 students about conservation law at a hunting safety class in Shiloh.

CPO Schachner attended a hunter safety course in Caseyville to present hunter safety and various hunting laws and regulations to approximately 30 students.

CPO Ralph Sievers attended a hunter safety class at the New Athens Sportsman Club.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

CPO Tapley issued a subject one citation and two written warnings after an investigation from deer season. The subject was cited for unlawful taking of a Whitetail deer.

CPO Tapley made an appearance at a hunter safety course in Ashley. 14 students were in attendance.

**REGION 5 – Captain Tim Daiber**

**District 14 – Sgt. Jeff Cariens**

**(Counties: Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Pope, Saline, White)**

FRANKLIN COUNTY

CPO Lay responded to and investigated a boat accident on Rend Lake. With wind gusts in excess of 15-25 mph, a boat operator on Rend Lake attempted to navigate hazardous waters to the boat launch area. The boat was swamped with water and forced into the rocks by the waves and wind. Both occupants were not injured.

CPO Schoenhoff conducted three timber truck inspections. No violations were discovered.

CPO Lay issued citations to five fisherman for fishing without a license.

GALLATIN COUNTY

CPO Diggins conducted park patrols at the Saline County Conservation Area and Sahara Woods. An Equality, IL man was cited for operating a motor vehicle and parking on a bike trail. Three written warnings were also issued for vehicle code violations.

HAMILTON COUNTY

CPO Williams conducted an administrative investigation on deer harvested in the 2016 season. During the investigation, a subject was discovered to have utilized a property only hunting permit for which they were no longer eligible, and the deer was taken on lands they did not own. The subject was cited for unlawful take of deer.

CPO Schoenhoff conducted an administrative investigation for use of bow permit during the firearm deer season. A hunter was cited for failure to report harvest before 10 pm on the same calendar day and was also given a written warning for an incorrect harvest report.

HARDIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CPO Lay issued citations to two hunters for hunting from a roadway.

CPO Williams presented at a hunter safety class conducted in Bluford, IL.

POPE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

SALINE COUNTY

CPO Folden and CPO Williams conducted an evening detail on department lands in Saline County. Two subjects were found in violation of the 10 PM closure time at Sahara Woods State Fish and Wildlife Area.

WHITE COUNTY

CPO Schoenhoff attended a hunter safety class at a local high school.

During an administrative investigation, CPO Schoenhoff discovered a violator who failed to have an archery deer permit or a hunting license prior to hunting. A citation for unlawful hunting without a valid archery deer permit was written.

CPO Schoenhoff investigated a TIPs report of using bait for deer. The property owner was assisted in removing the bait.

**District 15 – Sgt. Dave Hyatt**

**(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Richland, Wabash & Wayne)**

CLAY COUNTY

CPO Smith was conducting a phone interview with a subject from Florida in reference to an administrative deer investigation. CPO Smith was basically letting the subject know of the law change pertaining to the use of archery devices during a firearm season. The subject stated he killed a deer on a certain date and did not report the harvest until two days later. CPO Smith advised the subject Illinois law states the harvest must be reported by 10:00 PM the same day. CPO Smith issued a citation and sent it to the individual via U.S. Postal service.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

CPOT Ausmus and CPO Taylor investigated a subject in Crawford County for killing a doe during shotgun season without having a valid deer permit at the time of the kill. The subject admitted to killing a doe and buying the tag afterwards. The subject was issued one citation.

EDWARDS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

FAYETTE COUNTY

CPO Compton investigated a case where a husband and wife were suspected of several deer hunting violations over the last several years. During the investigation, a 10-point buck was identified as being taken unlawfully in 2014. The rack was seized, and charges were filed against the wife. Multiple warnings were also issued to both subjects.

JASPER COUNTY

CPO Taylor cited a subject at Newton Lake for fishing in a restricted area.

CPO Buhnerkempe issued a man 2 written warnings at Newton Lake for fishing in a restricted area and fishing license not in possession.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

MARION COUNTY

CPOT Ausmus and CPO Tapley investigated a report of a possible pollution case at a commercial establishment. The case has been forwarded to the IEPA.

CPO Smith was patrolling S.A. Forbes State Park and observed a vehicle drive by with the driver not wearing his seatbelt. CPO Smith initiated a traffic stop and asked the driver for his driver's license. The driver handed CPO Smith an expired driver's license; expired by over 6 months. CPO Smith asked the driver for proof of insurance for the vehicle. The driver could not find a valid insurance card. CPO Smith issued 1 citation for expired driver's license, 1 citation for no proof of insurance, and 1 written warning for not wearing a seatbelt. The subject's wife was sitting in the backseat. She had a valid driver's license. CPO Smith allowed her to drive the vehicle from there.

CPO Smith was enforcing sport fish regulations at a small state regulated lake and observed a fisherman fishing near the south end of the lake. CPO Smith approached the fisherman and asked him for his fishing license. The fisherman produced a valid sport fish license. CPO Smith asked the fisherman to hand him the fish basket. The basket contained several largemouth bass. The regulations for this lake are 1 bass at 15". CPO Smith took the basket of largemouth bass back to his squad where he measured and counted them. CPO Smith counted 6 bass with measurements ranging from 11.5 " to 13.5". CPO Smith issued 1 citation for failing to release short fish and 1 written warning for exceeding the daily limit.

CPO Smith observed two fisherman fishing 200 yards from the roadway. The fisherman spotted CPO Smith's squad as he went across the spillway. CPO Smith exited his squad and started walking toward the fisherman. CPO Smith observed one fisherman carry a 5 gallon bucket to the water's edge and appear to dump it out. CPO Smith was using his binoculars and was still quite a distance from the fisherman. CPO Smith approached the 1st fisherman and asked him if he managed to dump the short fish out. The fisherman said he did nothing wrong. CPO Smith went to the area where the fisherman dumped the bucket and observed a bluegill and a largemouth bass still sitting in the water. CPO Smith caught the bass with his hands and said to the fisherman he found what he dumped out of the bucket. The other fisherman admitted to CPO Smith the largemouth bass was his. CPO Smith took the bass back to his squad and measured the fish to be 13.5"; CPO Smith issued one citation for failing to release short fish.

CPO Smith and Sgt. Hyatt were patrolling and observed a fisherman in a boat on a farm pond. CPO Smith approached the fisherman and asked to see his fishing license and life jacket. The fisherman did not have a life jacket aboard the boat. The fisherman was only 17 years old. CPO Smith and Sgt. Hyatt spoke with him and explained the dangers of not having a life jacket in a boat. CPO Smith issued a written warning for no life jacket.

**RICHLAND COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

**WABASH COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county

**WAYNE COUNTY**

CPO Buhnerkempe attended the United Bow Hunters of Illinois awards banquet in Springfield, where he was honored as officer of the year.

CPOT Ausmus and CPO Buhnerkempe arrested an Ellery man for unlawful take of a Whitetail deer without deer permits and failure to immediately tag upon kill. The investigation revealed the subject illegally harvested a 9 point buck without first purchasing an archery deer permit. The subject also transported the Whitetail deer prior to lawfully tagging it. The 9-point rack was seized as evidence.

CPOT Ausmus and CPO Buhnerkempe arrested a Sims man that unlawfully harvested a Whitetail deer without valid deer permits. The subject harvested a buck without first obtaining any archery deer permits.

CPO Buhnerkempe was on patrol in Wayne County when he observed a man riding an ATV on a public roadway. CPO Buhnerkempe stopped the man and determined his driver's license was revoked. He was arrested for driving while license revoked and operation of and ATV on the roadway and taken to the Wayne County Jail.

CPO Buhnerkempe was pulled off on the side of the road looking up an address when a driver of a black minivan drove past him with a 6 year old boy sitting on his lap. CPO Buhnerkempe stopped the van and found the driver had not changed the vehicle registration from FL to IL and had no proof of valid insurance. He was cited for failure to secure a child in a child safety restraint and operation of an uninsured motor vehicle. He was also issued a written warning for no valid registration.

**District 16 – Sgt. K. Taylor**

**(Counties: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pulaski, Union & Williamson)**

ALEXANDER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

JACKSON COUNTY

CPO Mohrman responded with Jackson County deputies and Murphysboro police officers to a shots fired call in Murphysboro. Witnesses reported two cars exchanged gunfire after pulling up alongside each other and then sped off. No victims or suspects were located, and the incident remains under investigation.

While patrolling in Pyramid State Park, CPO Mohrman and CPOT Roper located what had been a marijuana grow from the prior summer. The area had numerous old bags of growing medium and bottles of fertilizer scattered amongst the empty grow containers.

CPO Mohrman was first on scene at a motorcycle accident just outside Giant City State Park in Jackson County. A motorcycle rider collided with a vehicle and was injured. CPO Mohrman assisted with first aid for the subject and subsequent traffic control. None of the subjects, including an infant, were injured in the vehicle. CPO Mohrman noted the motorcycle rider was wearing full protective gear, helmet, jacket, gloves, which minimized his injuries.

JOHNSON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

MASSAC COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

PERRY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

PULASKI COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

UNION COUNTY

CPO Vasicek arrested a subject for spotlighting. The subject pleaded guilty to 2 wildlife charges and forfeited the rifle that was seized. He was fined \$407 and ordered to complete 30 hours of public service as well.

CPO Vasicek conducted assigned administrative interviews and completed field reports. No enforcement action was taken.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

CPO Mohrman gave a presentation on conservation Laws at a hunter safety class.